1. Tell me about your job?

I am a General Practitioner, I have to know the basics of all types of medicine and I work with people of all different ages from babies to the elderly. People must see me before I will recommend them to a specialist if necessary. I also work a little bit in the emergency department; my goal is to make people healthy and happy.

1. What are your educational qualifications?

Ever since I was in school, I had to maintain a 90+ grade to be able to pursue this job. It takes 5-8 years to study this field of medicine, but it varies in different places; it took me 6 years to complete my studies’ studied in Mousul University of Medicine the North of Iraq, it is one of the top 3 in the country(I studied in English).

1. What does your job require you to do?

Firstly I have to treat the patient by following a few steps

* See their Medical History and ask basic questions about their condition
* Do an overall clinical examination
* Perform a more detailed investigation such as blood tests or x- rays
* Give them a diagnosis or send them to a specialist if necessary
* Send them with their treatment, and follow up to see if there are any results

1. What is your daily routine?

First, I have to see if there are any pending results of previous patients, call the old patients and ask about their health, see new patients and study medical information papers.

1. What time do you have to be here and for how long, do you get any breaks?

We have to do a total of 8 hours a day, and 48 hours per week. It is my choice for the timing, but if I want to work in the morning, then I will come to work at 9 am and leave at 5 pm or if I want to work in the afternoon, then I will come to work at 2 pm and leave at 10 pm.

1. Describe the people around you and how you have to work with them?

Teamwork is VERY important in my job, but I usually have to work with the nurses, receptionists, and other doctors as well as new and old patients. I have to give instructions to the nurse and observe her to see if she is doing a good job. Also, having good communication with my patients is very important to treat them and have a good connection.

1. What do you do as soon as you get to work?

As soon as I get to work, I will look at new and old patients, check my email, listen to any medical channels, arrange papers and find out new treatments for the patient if the old one didn’t work.

1. Do you think you are and why?

Knowledgeable

Yes, because I always have to find out new things and apply it to patients. I take training courses, I read books and newsletters and I get updated with the new thing happening in medicine.

Principled

Yes, because I have to be honest with the patient, explain the condition and keep secrecy with the patient.

Inquirer

Yes, because I am always looking, finding and searching for new things happening and also inquiring about the patient and their health.

Caring

Yes, because a doctor has to care about their patients and treat them with care, kindness and understanding as well as with the nurses.

Risk- taker

Yes, but I will make sure that it is still safe, I will fully understand all of the dangers, but if I think I am capable then I will perform it on my patient.

Communicator

Yes, because I have to communicate the problem, diagnostic and treatment with the patient and nurse as well as any specialist or concerning family members.

Open- minded

Because I use more than one method, I use new things and try to expand my understanding of everything through new technology.

Balanced

Yes, because I have a balance between work, life and I am balanced with my patients in my job, because I have knowledge of everything about the human body, unlike an eye doctor who only knows about the eye.

Reflective

Yes, because I always have to evaluate or follow- up the patient to see if the medicine worked, if I made a wrong diagnostic or if I should stop the medicine.

Thinker

Yes, because I have a clear understanding of everything.

1. What did you have to study in university?

I had to study Biology, anatomy, pathology and physiology in the first 2 years. After that I had to study medicine, surgery, pediatrics, gynecology and obstetrics.

1. How is your job related to science?

I have to use medicine and practice my knowledge based on scientific studies and courses. It is a very scientific job, because medicine is made my chemistry, I have to study humans which are biology and I have to understand the patient which is psychology.

1. What skills do you need?

I need hand skills for examinations, to be skilled with technology to be updated, I also need to be an inquirer and patient.

1. What are your responsibilities?

I have great responsibility over the health of a patient by treating him, taking care of him, follow up, or sometimes I need to act fast for emergencies.

1. Does your job have anything to do with physics, chemistry or biology?

Yes, the anatomy of the human body is biology, as well as tissues and muscles. I have to understand chemically about medicines to see their reaction.

1. What types of skills and experiences are important in your position?

The most important things are to practice, train, study and update.

1. If you were to define science, what would you say?

I would say that it is interesting, helpful and always evolving.

1. What is the best thing about your job?

Helping people and their families become healthy.

1. What do you have to do to find out new things in your job?

I need to attend conferences, take medical courses, become a member in a scientific community, read magazines or books, check governmental universities or hospitals, and communicate with other doctors or specialists.